GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS

Published Weekly by

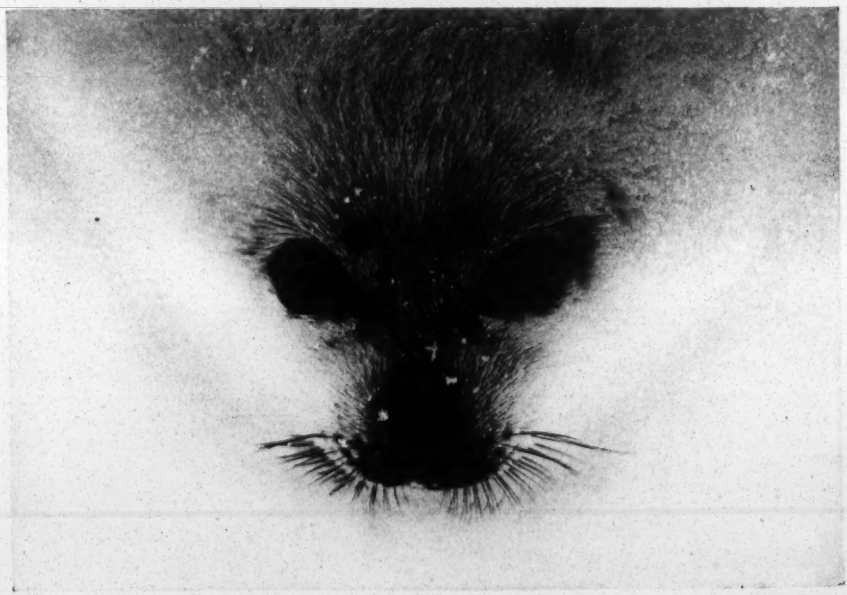
THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated under the Federal law as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion. General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.)

Contents for Week of March 22, 1937. Vol. XVI. No. 6.

1. A Greener and Grayer Washington Greets the Spring
2. Map Names Molded by Choice and Chance
3. Chilpancingo, Scene of Mexico's Declaration of Independence
4. Newfoundland Sealing Fleet Catches Shoes and Soap in the Raw
5. New Guinea: Divided Three Ways

NOTE TO TEACHERS: Because of the spring or Easter recess in many schools there will be no issue of the GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS on Monday, March 29, 1937. The BULLETINS will be resumed as usual on Monday, April 5, 1937.



© *Holloway*

HE MAY GROW UP TO BE A POCKETBOOK

Now a baby harp, hunted as "swile," this young seal may wind up in a bottle of cod liver oil, or as a piece of leather. The harp seal gets its name from the shape of a dark patch on the adult's back. "Swile" is the Newfoundlander's lingo for seal. Because they live so much in the water, catching them is "fishing" as well as hunting (see Bulletin No. 4).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic News Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers in the United States and its possessions for one year upon receipt of 25 cents in stamps or money order (in Canada, 50 cents). Entered as second-class matter, January 27, 1922, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 9, 1922.

UMI

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

A Greener and Grayer Washington Greets the Spring

DAY by day, at this time of year, Washington grows greener and grayer. Easter holiday visitors, coming now to the District of Columbia after an interval of a year or two, can notice the steady increase of grass and granite.

As white hair accentuates color in the face it frames, so the city's broadening gray band of public buildings sets off the greenery of parkways. Some of Washington's newest major structures are the buildings of the Interior Department, National Archives, Federal Home Loan Bank, the huge Department of Agriculture Annex, and the Calvert Street Bridge, all completed or occupied since last spring.

During the same period, five new memorials have been added to the city's monument population. A severe granite shaft, in the park south of the White House, names the eighteen original patentees prior to 1700 whose land grants later composed the District of Columbia. Medallions on the shaft's four faces bear those symbolic early American products—a fish, a tobacco leaf, an ear of corn, and a turkey.

Only President of U. S. Under Battle Fire While in Office

A Civil War crisis is noted in a bronze plaque, dedicated at Fort Stevens (13th and Rittenhouse Streets) by the G. A. R. Here Lincoln earned the title of the only President under battle fire while in office. The plaque, a bronze bas-relief miniature of the fort surmounting a low concrete block, is within the fort enclosure now being restored. To link this with the other fort sites surrounding Washington, Fort Drive has been planned; so far, the only section completed is that between Nebraska Avenue and Chesapeake Street, passing the new Woodrow Wilson High School, and the two reservoirs and the Norman stone water tower on the site of Fort Reno.

Most colorful is the Second Division Memorial to honor World War heroes, on Constitution Avenue near 17th Street. Before a frame of three marble panels, a hand holds upright a huge golden sword, with a fringe of curling gold flames.

Most peaceful is that tribute to international fellowship, the Jusserand Memorial, along Beach Drive in Rock Creek Park. The pink granite bench on the wooded hillside is the only tribute in Washington to a foreign ambassador. Jusserand, who for 22 years represented France in the United States prior to his death five years ago, has been classed with Lafayette.

The other newly dedicated memorial marks only unclouded times—a sundial in Meridian Hill Park. It is patterned after one devised 2,000 years ago in China, and a bronze tablet on the granite pedestal lists minor corrections. Its four concentric hoops of bronze, decorated with Roman numerals and signs of the zodiac, are as involved as some mammoth egg beater. Dedication of the Armillary Sphere was one of the final steps in bringing Meridian Hill Park to completion after 26 years of effort (see illustration, next page).

Fifty Small Parks Streamlined

Over fifty small parks have been remodeled for protection against brisk feet hurrying officeward or leisured individuals who cannot resist picking other people's flowers. Park grass was protected from the wear of short cuts by straighter wider concrete walks. To enforce a "Do Not Pick Flowers" plea, parks were planted with shrubs not so handily de-flowered: thorny hawthorn, flowering crab with pink and red blossoms in a tangle of twiglets, and saucer magnolias with spectacular pink blooms too large for boutonnières.

The same standard of beauty—practical beauty instead of mere prettiness—was applied to the year's crop of public buildings. Doffing columns and carvings, new office buildings look startlingly like offices, and not like Greek temples.

The new Interior Department Building manages to contain acres of offices without the help of a single fluted column. Its twelve projecting wings recede in perspective, rank behind rank, for two blocks, between C and E Streets along 18th and 19th. From above it appears a mammoth gray centipede, six legs reaching out on each side.

Seven stories high, "new Interior" has room for automobiles in the sub-basement, a cafeteria for a thousand, a whole "hidden" floor for all heating or cooling apparatus and plumbing (Floor 5½), and a penthouse promenade on top. Escalators, a broadcasting studio, automatic heat and air conditioning—in fact, "new Interior" has so many automatic aids to efficiency that it has been dubbed the "robot building."

Kin in modern spirit are the new white classroom buildings on the George Washington University campus, a short distance away. These unadorned cubes, with about 70 per cent of the walls given to casement windows, accent air and light instead of echoes of ancient Rome.

In striking contrast to such new buildings is little old Pierce Mill, recently set to "turning"

UMI

Photograph by Captain Frank Hurley

BARNUM WOULD HAVE BILLED THEM "HALF HUMAN, HALF GIRAFFE!"

These appalling figures, however, are simply Papuan tribesmen ordering dinner. "Ordering" is not so simple for them, because they stage elaborate chants and ritual dances to put a tabu on certain foods, so that only the men thereafter will dare to eat them. Papuan husbands in many New Guinea tribes live as "fraternity brothers" in a long clubhouse of palm thatch over an arched framework of poles, the whole structure elevated on stilts about 10 feet off the ground. This is but one of the many unique features of primitive life still to be found in the world's second largest island (see Bulletin No. 5).

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Map Names Molded by Choice and Chance

ST. THOMAS to Charlotte Amalie—what a transformation! This "saint" by any other name is still the capital of the Virgin Islands, although inhabitants agreed upon the change of title announced at the beginning of this month.

The new name, Charlotte Amalie, is really an old one revived, having been given to the place in 1673 by the then ruler, King Christian V, of Denmark, in honor of his wife. The saintly designation is an upstart fostered by the United States in 1921.

This small Caribbean island reverses the naming trend of modern towns. Most of them, touched with name-changing fever, abandon their earliest titles, perhaps significant of place or people, and adopt some pretty words with real estate appeal. Thus Mud Lake becomes Jewell Lake, and Widow's Tears Falls is cheered up as Silver Strand Falls.

Luray, Virginia, Corrupted from La Reine

Spelling is frequently altered to fit the way names are pronounced. When English pioneers in the United States found French names, they frequently pronounced them in such "hot potato" fashion that the original form is scarcely recognizable. Thus Luray, Virginia, was once La Reine; Rickreall, Oregon, was La Creole; Sallisaw, Oklahoma, came from Salaison, meaning "salt provision". Rivers and creeks fared even worse than towns in having their French names garbled. In Arkansas, the Chemin Couvert stream became the Smackover.

Spanish names as well as French ones have proved stumbling blocks. Among the more familiar mutilations is Key West, Florida, evolved from Cayo Hueso, meaning "Bone Reef."

Indian names have proved tongue trippers. The Indian name Lawi-saquik, "Middle Creek," for a village and creek in Pennsylvania has become Loyalsock. Connecticut is spelled the way pioneers pronounced the Indian name Quonoktacut, one interpretation of which is "the river whose water is driven in waves by tides or winds."

Rapidan River Was Once Rapid Anne

Names are legion that have been spelled according to sound. The plateau known as the "aux arcs" by early French settlers, later became Ozark. "Aux Arcs" has been interpreted variously as referring to a French trading post among the Arkansa Indians, or to bends, or "arcs", in the White River, which flows through that region. Yosemite is an approximation of the Indian name for grizzly bear, "Uzumaiti."

Slurring of combined names now and then forms a new name. The swift Rapidan River in Virginia is said to have been first called the "Anne", for Queen Anne of England. "Rapid" was added, referring to its current.

Sometimes a clerical error is responsible for an odd name. Glasco, Kansas, derived its name when a postmaster mispelled Glasgow. The classic example of a place christened erroneously is Nome, Alaska. Cartographers labeling a map of Alaska ran out of new names, and marked a cape tentatively "Name?" A draughtsman by mistake copied it as Cape Nome, and so it has remained.

While scores of place names become peculiar after being buffeted about for centuries, others are odd to start with. Among the queer ones are Goliad, Texas,

UMI

again in Rock Creek Park. Beside the three-story stone building, a wooden water wheel creaks and splashes, as it did over a century ago. Inside, a miller in white homespun measures out corn to feed to the old mill stone in the basement, thumps wooden chutes to speed the meal through, and then wraps water-ground meal and flour into packages for sale.

Another novelty on the Washington scene is the new addition to the Bird House at the Zoo, with painted, indirectly lighted cages encased by plate glass instead of wire. A glass "refrigerator" keeps the penguins comfortable at about 50 degrees. Among additions to that rival showplace, the Smithsonian Museum, are two famous airplanes, Wiley Post's *Winnie Mae* and Lincoln Ellsworth's *Polar Star*, and the gondola of *Explorer II*, which reached an altitude of 72,395 feet on the National Geographic Society-U. S. Army Air Corps Stratosphere Flight of 1935.

The unhurried flowering of the Washington Cathedral has shown such colorful progress as a small stained glass window for the Children's Chapel—a vestibule-size haven which even the littlest can come unto without feeling lost in grandeur. The Grand Reredos, or carved frame around the central altar of the Cathedral, is now in place, with more than four score stone saints.

Among changes in Washington's directory of institutions are the surrender of the University Club to the United Mine Workers for their new national headquarters and an Eastern Star national shrine in the handsome Perry Belmont mansion.

The city's growth is indicated by such figures as the Census Bureau's estimate of a population approaching 620,000 last year, building of about 2,600 residential structures, and a year's increase of 20,000 in motor vehicle registration. The small District of Columbia outranks eleven States in the number of motor vehicles, and in population-per-car ranks seventh among the States. With a car for each 3.5 persons, the District is surpassed by only four communities: Miami, Long Beach, Los Angeles, and San Diego. In population Washington (which fills the District of Columbia) ranks fourteenth now among the country's cities, without reckoning that the metropolitan area includes about 800,000 people.

Note: An illustrated article, recording Washington changes, is scheduled for publication in the June, 1937, issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*.

Bulletin No. 1, March 22, 1937.

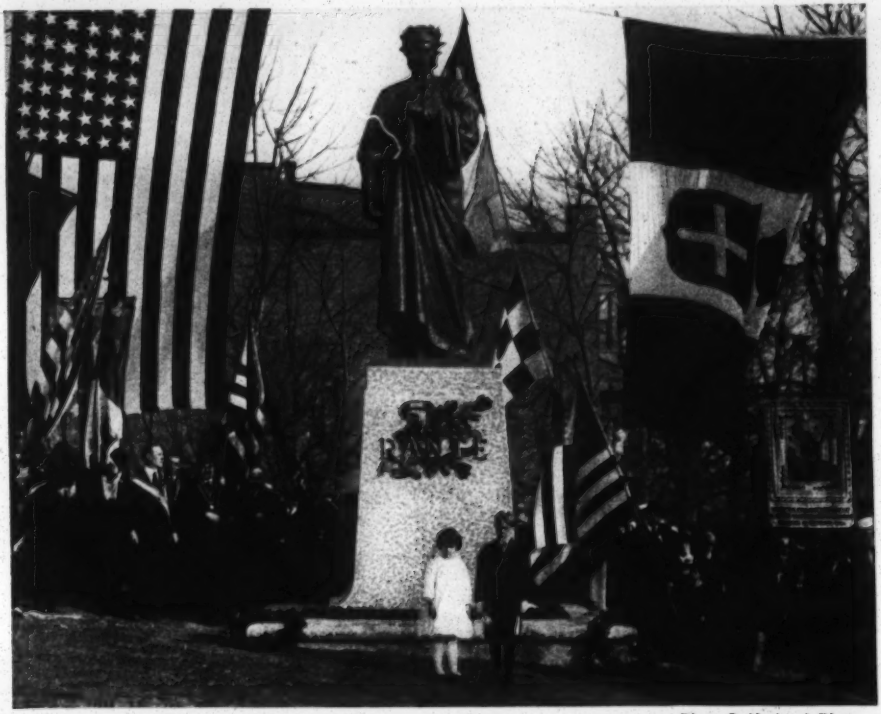


Photo © National Photo

THE POET WHO DESCRIBED HEAVEN AND HELL LOOKS CALMLY UPON WASHINGTON

Completion of Meridian Hill Park within the last year has turned attention to the statue of Dante, Italy's famed author of "The Divine Comedy," which has stood somewhat aloof in the park since its dedication. Steps and ramps now leading to it have made it more approachable.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Chilpancingo, Scene of Mexico's Declaration of Independence

THE half-ruined building where Mexican Independence was cradled over a century ago is being restored. It is the parish church of Chilpancingo, capital of the State of Guerrero, 95 miles inland from southern Mexico's Pacific coast.

Hitherto motorists have been inclined to zip through the town without a second glance. It lies two-thirds of the way westward on the "roller coaster" highway which swoops over six ridges and deep valleys between Mexico, D. F., and Acapulco, the nation's Pacific "Atlantic City." Most travelers will not stop when speeding through will permit them to accomplish the trip in one long day. Moreover Chilpancingo lacks the lure of intriguing quaintness, for it appears quite modern. Two earthquakes within the present century made necessary a rebuilding of the town with a rather modern air.

Associated with Two Heroes of the Revolution

An historic landmark, however, will hereafter bait Chilpancingo's hook for passing travelers. The church being restored from its ruins has the double attraction of having housed the first democratic Congress of Mexico and having been the scene of framing its Declaration of Independence.

At the invitation of Morelos, a mule-driver turned priest then rebel general, Mexican provinces which had thrown off Spanish rule sent elected delegates to Chilpancingo's church, and for unliberated provinces Morelos appointed other representatives. Their first Congress convened here on September 14, 1813. Almost two months later, on November 6, their Declaration of Independence was ready. New laws abolished slavery, caste distinctions, and the tribute demanded from Indians as subject tribes.

Chilpancingo marked the turning point in the success of Morelos' share in the revolution. From there he marched away into a series of defeats. Finally, while holding back a royalist army at a narrow defile in the mountains to allow his men to escape, he was captured and shot.

Tiger Dance with Fierce Painted Mask

His revolutionary mantle fell figuratively on the shoulders of Vicente Guerrero, who used his knowledge of native mountains around Chilpancingo for surprise attacks and equally as surprising escapes. Traveling secret trails, he found ways of furthering and financing the Revolutionary cause. Once he took the bronze church bells of a mountain village to be melted into cannon, and paid for them with a note of thanks which admiring Indian followers would not exchange for fuller payment. His birthplace at Tixtla, nearby, gives Chilpancingo a further claim to the attention of Mexican patriots.

The mountainous area which he frequented was named after him, the State of Guerrero, with Chilpancingo as its capital. The town's central location gave it a claim for this honor, although its size still is around 10,000. Its full name is Chilpancingo de los Bravos, or sometimes Ciudad Bravos.

As state capital, and as modern community profiting by older mistakes which the earthquakes wiped out, Chilpancingo is cleaner and less crowded than many of its neighbors. A spacious plaza, hotels with shaded patios, and new buildings are in keeping with its official position. Not far away, Indian boys are taught the ways of present-day life in a Federal school.

The town lies in a small valley scooped out of the last high range of the

UMI

formed from part of the name of the Mexican hero, Hidalgo, and Yreka, California, formed by transposing most of bakery. Yewed, Oklahoma, is the reverse of Dewey, in whose honor it was named.

Names Patched Together

Another group of names are hybrids pieced together out of scraps of several existing names. A well-known patchwork name is Texarkana. Connecticut has Hadlyme (from Haddam and Lyme) and Winsted (from Winchester and Barkhamsted). California claims Calistoga (from California and Saratoga) and Calexico. Kansas contributes its share with Grenola (based on Greenfield and Kanola), Kanopolis (parts of Kansas and Centropolis), and Kanorado.

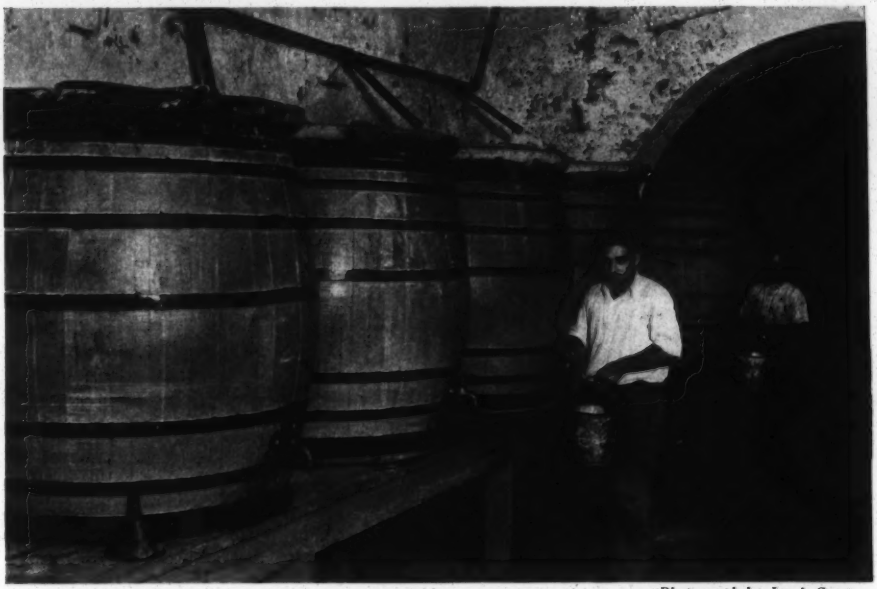
Homely names are becoming rarer after such changes as Snake Island into Bass Island, Smith's Creek to Paradise Creek, and Hog Island (Maine) to Appledore Island. Lagunitas Creek is the successor to the title of Paper Mill Creek, and Burford Lake erases Stinking Lake from the map.

Note: The large wall map collection published by the National Geographic Society shows recent changes in map names throughout the world. This collection includes the following:

Pacific Ocean	December, 1936	Asia	December, 1933
Canada	June, 1936	United States	May, 1933
World	December, 1935	Antarctic Regions	October, 1932
Africa	June, 1935	Travels of Geo. Washington	January, 1932
Caribbean Countries	December, 1934	Europe	December, 1929

These maps were published as free supplements in the *National Geographic Magazines* of the dates given. Additional copies can be obtained from the Washington, D. C., headquarters of the National Geographic Society postpaid for 50 cents per copy on paper, or 75 cents on linen, except the map of Europe, which is available only on paper.

Bulletin No. 2, March 22, 1937.



Photograph by Jacob Gayer

THE SAME BAY RUM, BUT NOW FROM CHARLOTTE AMALIE, NOT ST. THOMAS

Making bay rum with the bay oil of a small aromatic tree is a leading industry on little St. Thomas Island, the name of whose capital has been changed back to Charlotte Amalie. Originally named in honor of a 17th century Danish Queen, the city was known by variously spelled titles, even Amalienborg, until the United States settled all differences by substituting the now discarded St. Thomas.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Newfoundland Sealing Fleet Catches Shoes and Soap in the Raw

THE far northern town of St. John's is sending off a hardy fleet on the annual Newfoundland seal hunt. Until mid-April, thousands of young seals will be captured and skinned every day.

Milady, dressed in the height of fashion, rarely thinks of the storm-swept Arctic seas where ships have been crushed, burned, and blown up in the race to fill their hulls with skins and fat, from which her fine shoes, pinseal handbag, and costly toilet soap may be made.

The Newfoundland seal, differing from its Pacific relative, is hunted for oil and leather rather than fur.

Young Seals Gain 2 to 3 pounds Daily

With the lengthening days of March, thousands of mother seals come up through "bobbing holes" and bear their young on the shifting ice fields north of Newfoundland. Sleek, brown-eyed creatures with cat's whiskers, new-born harp seals look like fluffy white muffs. Innumerable little furry white puppies lie among the ice pinnacles, gaining weight at the phenomenal rate of two or three pounds a day.

When a baby seal is about two weeks old, it may notice its mother sniffing the air suspiciously. Not far away a black hulk drifts close through shattered ice pans. A clamor of strange noises fills the air and odd two-legged creatures run out over the fields of ice. The startled mother makes off with other adult seals, which quickly slip into the ocean through convenient breathing holes. The seal pup and its playmates wriggle toward the strangers. Acres of moon-eyed white pincushions await their hunters, curious and unafraid.

The seal "fisher" does not hesitate to attack the young animals. He asserts that seals destroy thousands of barrels of good cod every year. And cod (which is what the Newfoundlander means by "fish") is life itself to thousands of the fishermen. Sealing is undertaken also to provide extra cash during otherwise idle winter and spring months.

Light-Footed Fishermen Wear Canvas Jumpers

Early in March a small fleet of scarred, ice-breaking ships sail out of the bottle neck of St. John's harbor, bound for seal-peppered ice fields off Labrador. Steamers smash their way through grinding ice, guided by members of the crew in lookout "barrels" high on the masts. Their cries of "Seals ahead!" give the signal for frenzied preparations among the milling crews beneath. Sealers wear canvas jumpers over homemade sweaters, homespun trousers, one to four flannel shirts. Sealskin or woolen caps with ear flaps protect against zero winds.

Light-footedness is the cardinal virtue of a sealer. At the call, "Over the sides!", nimble, raw-boned men jump out on spinning ice-pans, armed with dogwood bats having iron hooks and spikes, razor-sharp knives, and light drag-ropes. Young seals (the whitecoats) are most highly prized, but when the hunt is lean, the parent animals are also taken.

The sealer attacks his quarry with his bat, expertly husks off the *sculps* (the skins and adherent fat), leaving the carcasses steaming on the ice. Three or four *sculps* are strung on a rope, by which the sealer hauls them to one of the colored marker flags where several men pile their catches. Later the ship breaks

UMI

Sierra Madre del Sur on the Pacific side. Almost a mile above sea level, this lofty valley is comfortable and fertile. Indians on muleback amble to town on market days, each bringing his small stock of gourds, beans, Indian corn, potatoes, or green and red peppers. Little piles of fruits and vegetables, neatly and sometimes geometrically laid out on mats in the market place, are sold by women in the universal dark blue woolen shawl, or *rebozo*.

Chilpancingo's little valley, although it figures not at all in the nation's export trade, produces a wealth of fruits and excellent cotton, cocoa, and coffee. Mineral wealth, too, is hinted of, and legends of Montezuma's gold still survive.

The town blossoms with native color during its annual Indian festival in December. Primitive music, monotonous beating on the tall, upright hollow-log drums, and ritual dancers with masks erase any impression that Chilpancingo is altogether a modern town. The Dance of the Tiger, so old that no one remembers its meaning, is performed in masks of yellow with protruding tusks and green eyes.

Note: Some recent articles about Mexico in the *National Geographic Magazine* are: "The Mexican Indian Flying Pole Dance," March, 1937; "Yucatan, Home of the Gifted Maya," November, 1936; "Travels with a Donkey in Mexico," (issue contains map supplement of the Caribbean, including Mexico), December, 1934; "Vignettes of Guadalajara," March, 1934; "Monte Albán, Richest Archaeological Find in America," October, 1932; "Unearthing America's Ancient History," July, 1931; "North America's Oldest Metropolis," July, 1930; "Among the Zapotecs of Mexico," May, 1927; and "Isthmus of Tehuantepec," May, 1924.

Bulletin No. 3, March 22, 1937.

Photograph by Bernard Bevan

A NEARBY MARKET IS THE FAR BOUNDARY OF MANY MEXICANS' INTEREST

Chilpancingo, although the capital of the State of Guerrero, attracts many Indians only because it is their nearest market. This scene at Ayutla is typical of many small market towns on the Pacific slopes of Guerrero State. Travel farther afield is easy now, with Chilpancingo linked to Mexico's coast and capital city by a year-round road. Not far away, at Balsas, is the terminal of the railroad.

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

New Guinea: Divided Three Ways

"NOT For Rent" is the policy which the Netherlands continue for their part of the island of New Guinea. A hint that Japan might like to lease this huge section of Netherlands Indies has met no favorable response at The Hague.

New Guinea is under three governments: two Australian administrations, and the Netherlands. If it had chosen these governing powers itself, it could be said to have "played both ends against the middle" with a vengeance.

The western half is included in the Netherlands Indies, toward the rest of which it extends a long, northerly peninsula. The eastern half is British territory under Australian rule on the south, and an Australian mandate on the north. The latter section was mandated to Australia after being taken from Germany at the end of the World War.

World's Second Largest Island

New Guinea, with an area of about 250,000 square miles, is the second largest island on the globe, only Greenland ranking ahead of it. Borneo, a near neighbor, is also a near rival in size, but New Guinea is larger. Its length, 1,400 miles, is over three times the greatest width.

Lying between the Equator and Australia, the sprawling island is separated from the northerly finger of Queensland by Torres Strait. British New Guinea, facing the Strait, is better known as Papua, because of the Papuan tribes which are predominant among the island's population. This area is too close to Australia for the latter to welcome a foreign neighbor across the Strait. When the Netherlands had occupied the western part, therefore, the southeastern section was quietly annexed to Queensland in 1883.

The Strait was navigated by Captain Cook, settling the question as to whether New Guinea was a separate island or an extension of Australia. The Captain, however, modestly refused to consider himself the discoverer. Missing records left a possibility that he had been preceded by Luis Vaes de Torres, for whom the Strait is named.

Under Australian administration, New Guinea natives are protected, and are escaping the complete extinction which befell the aboriginals of Tasmania. Exploiters may not obtain concessions or make land purchases without government approval, and they may not deport natives.

Same Sound Meant Sweet Potato and Holy Ghost

In many respects New Guinea is most privitive. A few white settlements and mission stations dot the country, or lie along the moist tropical coast. Leading town is Port Moresby, on the southeastern coast. Mining and lumbering, and copra, cotton, and sugar cane production are carried on under the supervision of white concession managers. But wherever the white man has not penetrated—and the island's core is yet unexplored—natives live in primitive simplicity.

The islanders are a happy, boisterous lot until something offends them, when they at once become sullen and treacherous. They offer a decided contrast to their neighbors the Malays, who are grave, reserved, and dignified.

There is a bewildering variety of human types among the New Guinea tribes, and manners and customs differ much from village to village. The number of cannibals and head hunters is decreasing.

Each tribe speaks its own language. Frequently the same word has entirely different meanings in different communities, as a missionary discovered when one

UMI

through the icefields to these piles. The *sculps* are hoisted aboard and dumped into fat-soaked holds.

Back in port, the fat-layers are cut off the pelts and rendered into odorless, colorless oil. Rough skins are transformed into fine leather. The oil is a constituent of some soaps and also is used as a lubricant, as an illuminating oil, as an adulterant of cod liver oil, and in treating leather. Seal skins are cut and sewn into boots, pocketbooks, and novelty leather goods.

Note: See also "Sealing Saga of Newfoundland," with 44 illustrations, in the *National Geographic Magazine* for July, 1929.

Bulletin No. 4, March 22, 1937.

FORM FOR REQUESTING RENEWAL OF BULLETINS

School Service Department
National Geographic Society
Washington, D. C.

Kindly send ..... copies of the GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS weekly for one school year, for classroom use, to:

Name .....

Address for sending BULLETINS .....

City ..... State .....

I am a teacher in ..... School ..... Grade ....

I enclose (for each subscription, 25 cents in United States or its possessions; 50 cents in Canada): Total amount .....

Photograph from Ernest Maunder

WINGS NOW FURNISH EYES FOR THE NEWFOUNDLAND SEALING FLEET

Formerly the sealing ships were guided by a lookout in a "barrel" at the top of the mast, where the engine's vibration might interfere with clear sighting through a 6-foot glass. Now an airplane can find the location of the seals and save the ships much cruising through grinding ice floes.

tribe's word for Holy Ghost was elsewhere interpreted as "sweet potato." On Jobi Island, hardly larger than Long Island and lying off the coast of Netherlands New Guinea, eleven languages are spoken.

The pure Papuan is very dark brown, usually a well-built, thick-set individual of medium height. Occasionally one is seen who is slight, with strongly marked Negrito characteristics; this type probably represents a survival of the very earliest human inhabitants of the region, as were the Negritos in the Philippines. Out on the Pacific coast one meets people who have characteristics of other island groups to the eastward, for there probably have been accidental colonizations along this shore.

Canoes are enormous affairs, with bows decorated with fretwork carving, in elaborate designs, and with wooden heads which were made to look like real ones, by having enormous mops made of cassowary feathers stuck to them.

Note: Additional references to, and photographs of, New Guinea may be found in the following: "Color Glimpses of the Changing South Seas" (color insert), *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1934; "Men and Gold," April, 1933; "Into Primeval Papua by Seaplane," September, 1929; "Around the World in the 'Islander'," February, 1928; "A Pictorial Jaunt Through Papua" (picture insert), January, 1927; and "The Islands of the Pacific," December, 1921.

Bulletin No. 5, March 22, 1937.

Photograph by Dr. E. W. Brandes

PAPUAN BOAT BUILDERS ARE SCULPTORS, AS WELL AS CARPENTERS

Although these workmen have abandoned shell, string, and feather clothing, they use the primitive method of chipping a boat from a huge log. Even the interior is hollowed out by chipping, instead of being burnt out, although the only implements available may be stone adzes. Some canoes are built with outriggers for balance. Others are equipped with crab-claw sails on central masts and are capable of going to sea. Boats are built only in those seasons which are considered favorable, and a new canoe carries bunches of taro at both ends as offerings to the Taro Spirit which will guide it over the waters in safety.

UMI